

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3784

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002

COAL BED METHANE IN M.P., RAJASTHAN AND WEST BENGAL

V. SAROJA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have invited bids for exploration and production of Coal Bed Methane (C.B.M.) in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the number of bids received and number of C.B.M. blocks awarded;

(c) whether the Government have plan to conduct exploration of C.B.M. in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MI OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) & (b):- Yes, Sir. In the first offer of blocks under Coal Bed Methane Policy, seven blocks falling in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan were offered for bidding. The details in this regard are as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No.of blocks offered	No. of blocks received	No. of blocks awarded
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1.	West Bengal	1	5	1
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2.	Jharkhand	2	7	2
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3.	Madhya Pradesh	3	3	2
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4.	Rajasthan	1	1	-
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(c) & (d):- Identification and offer of CBM blocks from States having CBM potential in the country, including Tamilnadu, is an ongoing process.